United Nations A/65/935–S/2011/546

General Assembly
Security Council

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30 August 2011
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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 107
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Letter dated 25 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you of the statement of 19 August 2011, issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, which refers to Cuba's inclusion, once again, in the United States Department of State's spurious list of alleged "State sponsors of international terrorism", for the sole purpose of discrediting our country and continuing to justify the cruel and condemned policy of embargo against Cuba (see annex).

I would like to request that this letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Pedro **Núñez Mosquera**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-48388 (E) 010911 010911

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Annex to the letter dated 25 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba

Havana, 19 August 2011

On 18 August, the Department of State included Cuba, for the thirtieth time, in the spurious list of alleged "State sponsors of international terrorism", for the sole purpose of discrediting our country and continuing to justify the cruel and condemned policy of embargo against Cuba.

The United States Government, which historically has practiced State terrorism, extrajudicial killings, kidnapping, assassinations by drone, torture and illegal detentions, which has established secret prisons, which is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians through its wars of occupation and conquest in Iraq and Afghanistan, which systematically bombs sovereign States such as Libya, does not have any moral basis or right to judge Cuba, which has an unblemished record in the fight against terrorism and has also consistently been a victim of that scourge.

The United States Government acts as if it had not protected, on a permanent basis, the self-confessed criminal Luis Posada Carriles, whom it has not wished to prosecute on charges of terrorism, despite having ample evidence. Posada Carriles, together with Orlando Bosch Ávila, who received a presidential pardon from George Bush Senior, is the perpetrator of the horrific bombing of a Cuban civilian aircraft in flight, which cost the lives of 73 innocent persons. He is also directly responsible for the death of an Italian tourist, Fabio Di Celmo, during the bombing attacks on Cuban tourist facilities in 1997. Today, Posada Carriles walks the streets of Miami freely and with impunity, after his acquittal in a legal farce in El Paso, Texas.

At the same time, as irrefutable proof of its double standards, the United States Government keeps our five counter-terrorism fighters in prison unjustly and punishes them for saving the lives of Cuban and United States citizens and those of other countries.

As a result of terrorist acts that were organized, funded and carried out from United States territory, in many cases with the full complicity of the United States Government, 3,478 Cubans have died and another 2,099 have been maimed.

Political manipulation of such a sensitive issue as counter-terrorism is also offensive to the memory of the victims of the criminal acts of 11 September 2001, events that prompted an offer of solidarity and unconditional assistance from our Government and people.

Cuba demands that the United States Government punish the real terrorists who now reside in United States territory, free the Five Heroes and put an end to the policy of embargo and hostility towards our country, which threatens the legitimate interests of both peoples.

United Nations A/65/936

General Assembly

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Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 117
Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 26 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the diplomatic note from the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela concerning the attack on the Venezuelan Embassy and official residence in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 23 August 2011 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 117.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Valero**
Permanent Representative

11-48570 (E) 060911 060911

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Annex to the letter dated 26 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Note from the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela concerning the attack on the Venezuelan Embassy and official residence in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

New York, 26 August 2011

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela strongly condemns the attack on its Embassy and official residence accredited to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, committed on 23 August 2011 by an armed and violent mob that caused substantial damage to its facilities and endangered the lives of the people within. As they publicly proclaimed, the irrational attackers were attempting to assassinate Mr. Alif Tajeldine, Venezuela's Ambassador to that brother country.

These criminal attacks on our nation's heritage and sovereignty, which endangered Venezuelan diplomatic and local staff, are a clear violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela condemns the fact that the perpetrators of these criminal acts, the so-called "National Transitional Council", have illogically persisted in criticizing Venezuela's strong support for international law as shown by its respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of the people of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It is common knowledge that this "Council" operates under the protection of the United States of America and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

It is important to bear in mind that NATO, which monitors the land, sea and airspace of Libyan territory, is responsible for these events and bears the consequences thereof.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela condemns the fact that this attack on the sovereignty of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela occurred at a time when imperialist and pro-imperialist NATO countries are killing thousands of innocent civilians and destroying the heritage of the Libyan people through indiscriminate bombing.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela condemns the fact that these countries are attempting to seize the immeasurable water resources and hydrocarbon reserves of the Libyan people, as well as their international reserves in the amount of US$ 200 billion.

Having destroyed one of Africa's finest infrastructures, which was created to benefit the Libyan people, the aggressor Powers have now begun to divide among them, through acts of pillage, the lucrative contracts for the "reconstruction" of Libya. They are turning the destruction of a developing country into an immoral business.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela asserts that arming, training and supporting internal subversive groups in Libya, promoting and funding regime change, ordering assassination of the leader of a sovereign nation and attacking the territorial integrity and political independence of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

constitute clear and systematic violations of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011) and of the Charter of the United Nations and undermine the fundamental principles and norms of international law.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reiterates its call for all the warring parties in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to declare an immediate ceasefire in order to open negotiations leading to a political solution, thereby avoiding further bloodshed, and to lay the foundation for a lasting peace in this sister nation under the good offices that the African Union has been offering since the beginning of the conflict.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stresses the need to preserve the unity, peace, territorial integrity, sovereignty, self-determination and political independence of this State. It confirms that it recognizes only the Government of Muammar Al-Qadhafi and that it will not recognize any Government installed in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya as a result of this imperialist aggression and intervention.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela urges the signatories to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations to condemn the attack on the Venezuelan State.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to condemn the violation of the sovereignty of the homeland of the Liberator, Simón Bolívar, and to reiterate the international obligation to ensure the inviolability of diplomatic missions accredited to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

United Nations A/65/937–S/2011/516

General Assembly
Security Council

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1 September 2011

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 122 (e)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 12 August 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the joint statement adopted by the participants of the sixth general meeting between the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and its associated institutions, which was held at the CARICOM headquarters in Georgetown, on 28 and 29 July 2011 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under sub-item (e) of agenda item 122. I would also ask that the joint statement be circulated as a document of the Security Council in response to its resolutions 1631 (2005) and 1809 (2008), particularly paragraph 17 of resolution 1809 (2008).

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

11-48543 (E) 060911

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Annex

Joint statement of the sixth general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system

28 and 29 July 2011, Georgetown, Guyana

1. The sixth general meeting between the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and its associated institutions was convened at the headquarters of the CARICOM secretariat in Georgetown, on 28 and 29 July 2011. Opening remarks were made by Acting Secretary-General of CARICOM, Ambassador Lolita Applewhaite. The Secretary-General of the United Nations sent a message that was delivered by the Head of the United Nations delegation, Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs. The meeting, which enjoyed wide participation from representatives of the CARICOM secretariat and its associated institutions as well as from representatives of the United Nations system, was co-chaired by Ambassador Colin Granderson, Assistant Secretary-General, Foreign and Community Relations of the CARICOM secretariat, and Mr. Fernandez-Taranco.

2. The Acting Secretary-General of CARICOM underlined the usefulness of the sixth general meeting, lauding the biennial encounters as invaluable for the review of cooperation between the United Nations and CARICOM, as the general meetings permitted the frank exchange between the partners and facilitated strategic planning for the enhancement of future collaboration. She expressed appreciation for the continued support and collaboration that CARICOM has received from the United Nations system in the region's efforts towards sustained social and economic development. She informed of the recent decisions of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM regarding the matter of prioritizing the focus and direction of the community and underscored the need to identify concrete projects in specific areas of priority that will yield impact on the ground, ensuring maximum, measurable and concrete benefits to the citizens of the CARICOM region. In this regard, she acknowledged the discussions regarding the utility of the regional strategic framework, as reflected in the interim and final reports, and reiterated CARICOM support for follow-up with a view to ensuring that it is the appropriate mechanism to deepen collaboration between the United Nations and CARICOM. She also reiterated CARICOM concern regarding the decrease in United Nations representation in the region in certain critical areas, such as security and regional development, and deplored the closures of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and United Nations Development Programme offices and the protracted absence of a Chief of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean subregional headquarters.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations welcomed the opportunity to deepen cooperation between the United Nations system and CARICOM. He thanked CARICOM countries for their commitment to multilateralism and regional cooperation, as well as their leadership on climate change and on the issue of non-communicable diseases. He also commended the progress made by the Caribbean region towards the Millennium Development Goals, yet expressed concern at the negative effects that the global financial crisis, climate change and organized crime were having in the region. The Secretary-General reiterated the strong commitment of the United Nations to strengthening its partnership with

CARICOM. In particular, he welcomed the recommendations on the United Nations and CARICOM regional strategic framework and expressed the hope that a dialogue would proceed on how best to enhance the coherence of United Nations engagement in the region.

4. The meeting received a report on progress achieved in the implementation of commitments made at the fifth general meeting, held in New York, in February 2009. The main outcome of that meeting was the decision to implement the United Nations and CARICOM Regional Strategic Framework in order to provide for enhanced coordination between the two organizations. Accordingly, an interim report was jointly completed, in 2010, by the Department of Political Affairs and the Foreign and Community Relations Directorate of the CARICOM secretariat and a final report was produced in 2011. Both reports reflected extensive consultations with participating United Nations agencies, departments, funds and programmes, as well as with the CARICOM secretariat and community institutions. The sixth general meeting considered these two reports on the implementation of the Framework. The reports showed that CARICOM and the United Nations are working together in many areas that had been agreed to be of critical importance to the region's development and security objectives. Indeed, ongoing United Nations programmes cover a broad spectrum of activity, and contribute to the four strategic objectives of the Regional Strategic Framework, namely: (a) maintaining momentum towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; (b) supporting regional economic integration, growth and development; (c) creating a safe and secure environment for citizens and respect for the rights of all; and (d) enhancing governance, transparency and accountability in CARICOM.

5. Through the consultation processes that underpinned the two reports, it was recognized that the Regional Strategic Framework had served a useful purpose in raising awareness about the need for a more coherent United Nations approach to cooperation in the Caribbean region. The Framework was also helpful in identifying the areas where cooperation was aligned with CARICOM priorities and areas where United Nations involvement could be strengthened. The above notwithstanding, there was broad consensus that the current Framework mechanism, as managed by the Department of Political Affairs and the Foreign and Community Relations Directorate, was no longer the most appropriate instrument for coordinating United Nations activities in the region. Indeed, since the Framework was first proposed in 2007, the United Nations system had established and enhanced other frameworks and mechanisms for cooperating with CARICOM and CARICOM member States.

6. As a result, the final report on the Regional Strategic Framework recommended that (a) the Department of Political Affairs and the Foreign and Community Relations Directorate focus their follow-up on the specific commitments for cooperation between the United Nations and CARICOM made during the general meetings, with the result that the Framework in its current form was no longer required; and (b) a discussion be initiated on how the United Nations system could achieve greater coherence in the Caribbean region, in partnership with the CARICOM secretariat and in support of CARICOM member States. Both recommendations were adopted at the sixth general meeting. Participating United Nations agencies, departments, funds and programmes committed themselves to initiating a dialogue on the nature of a more appropriate coordination mechanism to enhance coherence and effectiveness within United Nations system engagement in

the Caribbean, in partnership with the CARICOM secretariat and community institutions.

7. The meeting was apprised of CARICOM regional priorities and of the new thrust identified by the Conference of Heads of Government, in May 2011. An overview of the regional agenda was provided and indications were given as to how the CARICOM secretariat and its associated institutions envisaged implementing the agenda.

8. Of those regional priorities, seven broad thematic areas were identified as crucial areas for collaboration between the United Nations and CARICOM, including the implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy and institutional development matters. Other priorities were climate change, sustainable development and disaster management, energy, regional security, food security and food safety, human development, including health, education, gender and youth, and the role of information and communications technology for development. CARICOM reiterated the need to identify concrete projects in specific areas of priority that will yield impact on the ground, ensuring maximum, measurable and concrete benefits to the citizens of the CARICOM region.

9. It was recognized that the United Nations system was engaged in significant work in such areas at either the global or national level; the challenge was to identify areas within the framework of cooperation between the United Nations and CARICOM, where a regional approach would offer added value to ongoing national partnerships. CARICOM and United Nations participants thus engaged in discussions on how to strategically focus their cooperation to maximize progress in the priority areas in view of the transnational scope of such challenges. CARICOM and United Nations participants emphasized information-sharing, capacity-building and institutional strengthening as key tools for implementing their respective mandates. In this regard, they agreed that there was a need for early engagement to develop modalities for moving forward. Overall, the meeting provided a useful opportunity to move towards more coherent engagement in the organizations' long-standing partnership.

10. The meeting agreed that the seventh general meeting would take place at United Nations Headquarters, in New York, in 2013.

United Nations A/65/938–S/2011/550

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 34
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 30 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the so-called "presidential elections" held in Abkhazia, Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34.

An identical letter has been sent to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-48554 (E) 060911

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Annex to the identical letters dated 30 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the so-called "presidential elections" held in Abkhazia, Georgia

On 26 August 2011, the Russian occupation forces and their proxy regime in Sokhumi conducted another cynical act of pseudo-democratic policy, the so-called "presidential elections". Moscow also brought to Abkhazia several dozen so-called "international observers", in an attempt to legitimize the outcome of these "elections", and thus the ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of people. It is unfortunate that many "observers" visited Abkhazia without prior knowledge of the situation on the ground or knowledge of being in violation of Georgian legislation.

There is no justification for such mockery of international law. No decision on the future of Abkhazia can be legitimate as long as approximately half a million displaced persons, three quarters of the original population of the region, are deprived of the right to participate in the decision-making.

Crimes committed by occupants and their puppet regime have fundamentally distorted the demographics of Abkhazia, Georgia, thus preventing internally displaced persons and refugees of Georgian, Ukrainian, Armenian, Greek, Azerbaijani, Estonian and other ethnic origin from returning to their homes. Moreover, the human rights of the remaining residents are violated on a daily basis by the occupation regime and no international observers are allowed into the occupied region to report on these abuses and on the ongoing illegal militarization. In the existing reality these "elections" clearly display a complete disregard of internationally accepted norms and principles and cannot be considered legitimate by any standard.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia appeals to all members of the international community to give an adequate assessment to another farce conducted in one of the occupied regions of Georgia, Abkhazia, and steadily continue the non-recognition policy with reference to both occupied regions.

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
8 September 2011

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda items 36 and 37

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Letter dated 29 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has decided to formally recognize the State of Palestine. Attached herewith is the statement issued, on 29 August 2011, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Consumer Affairs of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, informing of the decision (see annex).

It would be appreciated if the present letter and its attachment could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Camillo M. **Gonsalves**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

11-49012 (E) 120911

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Annex to the letter dated 29 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in recognition of the State of Palestine

29 August 2011

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has today decided to formally recognize the State of Palestine as a free, independent and sovereign State.

This decision is in keeping with Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' long-standing and unwavering solidarity with, and commitment to, the just and legitimate aspirations of the people of Palestine for the exercise of their right to self-determination and to achieve a homeland of their own, independent, free, prosperous and at peace, and our advocacy over the years for a two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with the people of Israel and Palestine living side by side in their free and independent countries in peace, prosperity and harmony and within secure and internationally recognized borders.

It is Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' hope that the increasing recognition of the State of Palestine will contribute to a resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the creation of lasting peace and stability in the region. While many core issues of the conflict must be negotiated, the basis of those negotiations is clear: a viable Palestine and a secure Israel. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines believes that negotiations on these core issues must acknowledge the existence of two States, with permanent Palestinian borders with Israel, Jordan and Egypt, and permanent Israeli borders with Palestine. The borders of Israel and Palestine should be based on the 1967 lines with mutually agreed swaps, so that secure and recognized borders are established for both States. The Palestinian people must have the right to govern themselves and reach their potential in a sovereign and contiguous State.

United Nations A/65/940

General Assembly

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9 September 2011

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Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 115
Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Summary by the President of the General Assembly of the informal interactive hearing with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector to provide an input to the preparatory process of the 2011 High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

I. Introduction

1. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 65/238, an informal interactive hearing with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and academia was held on 16 June 2011 at United Nations Headquarters. Presided over by the President of the General Assembly, the hearing aimed to provide an input to the preparatory process of the 2011 High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, including negotiations by Member States of an outcome document for the High-level Meeting.

2. Planned with the support of a civil society task force convened by the President of the General Assembly for the purposes of preparing for the 2011 High-level Meeting, the hearing included an opening session followed by three thematic round tables. Each moderated round table included opening comments by individual panellists, comments from designated participants and a moderated discussion involving all participants.[1]

3. More than 250 civil society representatives participated in the hearing, including more than 50 individuals who either participated as panellists or made statements from the floor. The present report summarizes key findings of the hearing, including summaries of each session. The report is also informed by the findings of an online consultation held prior to the interactive hearing to canvass the

[1] For background papers prepared for the hearing, see www.un.org/en/ga/president/65/issues/ncdiseases.shtml and www.who.int/nmh/events/2011/informal_hearing/en/index.html.

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views of non-governmental, civil society, academic and private sector organizations that were unable to send a participant to the hearing. The purpose of the summary is to provide Member States with a resource for their consultations on the outcome document for the High-level Meeting.

II. Opening session

4. Welcoming participants to the interactive hearing, the President of the General Assembly emphasized the need for a global response to the challenge of non-communicable diseases. The prevention and control of non-communicable diseases should not be seen as competing with other development and health priorities, and solutions must be integrated into existing initiatives. The interactive hearing was an important component of the preparation for the forthcoming High-level Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases

5. The Deputy Secretary-General noted that non-communicable diseases are a threat to societal well-being, taking their greatest toll on developing countries. The United Nations was taking the issue of non-communicable diseases very seriously to ensure a global response to their broader social and economic impact. Praising the work and commitment of those present at the hearing, who are at the front line of the fight against non-communicable diseases, she encouraged them to learn from and link with those working on other key health development issues: HIV/AIDS and maternal and child health.

6. The Assistant Director-General for Non-communicable Diseases and Mental Health of the World Health Organization (WHO) cited key evidence on the scale, distribution and impact of the global non-communicable disease epidemic. Reviewing the key achievements of the past decade, he noted the important role civil society has played in progress to date. He also referred to the outcomes of regional consultations and other meetings conducted over the past eight months to provide input into the preparations for the High-level Meeting.

7. The Director-General of the King Hussein Cancer Foundation, Princess Dina Mired of Jordan, emphasized the need for unity in the efforts to get non-communicable diseases on the global agenda and give them the attention they deserve. She outlined the development of her own organization as an example of what it is possible to achieve in the developing world. Success would depend on developing strategic partnerships, ensuring explicit and measurable targets and Governments providing the necessary political leadership.

III. Round table 1: the scale of the challenge

8. The first round table addressed the health, social and economic scale of the challenge posed by non-communicable diseases. There is a fundamental right to good health that is being undermined by the globalization of risk factors for non-communicable diseases and by insufficient action. Thus, a human rights-based approach to the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases is warranted. The global response to non-communicable diseases needs to address the developmental and political aspects of the drivers of the main non-communicable diseases, and this will require collective action: no individual country is able to deal

with the problem alone. Much greater progress can and must be made in preventing and controlling the challenge posed by non-communicable diseases to prevent unnecessary suffering and premature deaths.

9. Speakers emphasized the need for urgent national and global action as non-communicable diseases increasingly frustrate social and economic development. Some countries already suffer the "double burden" of communicable and non-communicable diseases as well as issues of under- and overnutrition, sometimes in the same household. Health systems in all countries will not be able to cope with the projected burden of non-communicable diseases and Governments need to be aware that the cost of intervention is much less than the cost of inaction. The economic burden of non-communicable diseases is already substantial and will become staggering over the next two decades. Economic policymakers need to better understand that non-communicable diseases pose a significant economic threat, as they can be expensive to treat, require long-term management and undermine the contribution of labour to production. There is also a substantial opportunity cost, as the money spent on treating preventable diseases could be spent on other priorities.

10. Speakers stressed that the economic impact of non-communicable diseases is felt disproportionately among the poor, and many individuals and families are already tipped into poverty by these diseases; thus non-communicable diseases are also a social justice issue. This will only worsen if non-communicable diseases are not prioritized in countries' health and development plans. Strengthening health systems must include addressing the need for social insurance to reduce the potential for "catastrophic" expenditure by individuals who suffer from a non-communicable disease.

11. Given the complexity of the factors driving the challenge of non-communicable diseases, speakers emphasized the need for a response that is "whole-of-government", multisectoral and lifelong. Both prevention and control are essential, and there is much that can be done by the more systematic application of existing knowledge. There are highly cost-effective population and individual interventions for the four main non-communicable disease risk factors — tobacco use, poor diet, inadequate physical activity and harmful use of alcohol — and they should be prioritized. Countries should not focus on the "best buys" at the expense of the broader range of approaches that is needed to effectively reduce the impact of these risk factors. Speakers noted that this includes the need to consider the broader social, environmental and economic determinants of health, which strongly shape health-related choices and decisions made by communities, families and individuals. Likewise, the cultural, religious and social context should be considered when implementing effective interventions.

12. Many speakers emphasized the need for a response that complements rather than competes with existing initiatives, improving health systems for all conditions regardless of their origin. There is great potential for synergy with existing health development priorities, including those in the Millennium Development Goals. The important role of health professionals in both prevention and control was emphasized by speakers. The situation requires a holistic approach that addresses the needs of people and does not treat diseases in isolation. In this sense, other non-communicable conditions such as mental health disorders, substance abuse and

oral health disorders should be considered in the health system response to non-communicable diseases.

13. Speakers also emphasized the leadership role of Governments, which should include a commitment to developing and implementing a national non-communicable disease action plan and committing to "health in all policies". Speakers repeatedly emphasized that all key stakeholders need to be involved in the response, but noted that clarity of roles is essential to ensure that potential conflicts of interest are appropriately managed; it was proposed that frameworks be developed to assist countries in doing so. Speakers noted that some industrial influences are in conflict with not only health and social goals but also the goals of other industry and private sector actors; all stakeholders have an interest in dealing with those negative influences.

14. Speakers agreed on the need for ongoing and improved surveillance of non-communicable diseases, their risk factors and outcomes. They will be needed to monitor progress, guide policy decisions and research priorities and provide information on the effectiveness of different interventions. There was strong endorsement of the need for a clear monitoring and accountability framework as part of the global response to non-communicable diseases, with measurable indicators that countries can report against.

15. Finally, it was noted that success is possible, and there are many examples of significant and rapid progress in addressing non-communicable diseases. Now is the time to increase collective action on non-communicable diseases, and take the opportunity to avoid the growing negative social and economic consequences of the challenge posed by non-communicable diseases.

IV. Round table 2: national and local solutions

16. The second round table examined effective ways to address the challenges of non-communicable diseases. Much is known about effective interventions at both the population and individual levels to both prevent and control non-communicable diseases.[2] Interventions include tobacco control as set out in the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control; reducing the sugar, salt, trans-fats and saturated fats content of processed food; improving diets; increasing physical activity; creating effective policies and programmes to reduce the harmful use of alcohol; and providing low-cost high-quality essential medicines and technologies.

17. There is little contention regarding the evidence for the most cost-effective interventions; the challenge is thus primarily one of ensuring their proper implementation. It was agreed that non-communicable diseases are a societal problem, so a range of Government departments and societal actors need to be involved in the response. An effective mechanism to achieve this should be a priority for every country. There is an important role for civil society, and civil society should be given a formal role in both the development and implementation of each country's response.

[2] For example, chapters 4 and 5 of the World Health Organization "Global status report on noncommunicable diseases 2010" summarize the "best buys" in non-communicable disease prevention and control. See www.who.int/nmh/publications/ncd_report2010/en/index.html.

18. Speakers emphasized that premature deaths from non-communicable diseases are largely preventable, and prevention is central to a more effective response to non-communicable diseases at both national and global levels. Many primary and secondary preventive interventions are highly cost-effective and there are existing tools to support their implementation, including agreed-upon international codes, strategies and conventions.

19. Full implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control was cited by many speakers as being a top priority for action, due to the domination of tobacco-related premature deaths — currently 6 million per year — across the types of non-communicable diseases. The Framework Convention is now widely ratified by both developing and developed countries, but more can and should be done to support its full implementation in developing countries.

20. The prevention and control of non-communicable diseases should be grounded in a life-course approach, given the foetal and early childhood origins of some non-communicable diseases. Children are an important focus for interventions, what with the growing impact of risk factors such as obesity on children and adolescents and the opportunity afforded to reach them through schools. Likewise, women are an important target for interventions as child bearers and, frequently, as the "gatekeepers" for food, physical activity and health services for families. Speakers also emphasized the importance of prevention and effective treatment across the life-course, including into older age where much of the burden of diseases falls.

21. Speakers agreed on the need for an effective health system, which has benefits for all areas of health, not only non-communicable diseases. Primary care is the key health-care setting for cost-effective prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. An important lesson learned from experiences in preventing and treating HIV/AIDS is the need for better integration of prevention and treatment services across disease areas — so-called "horizontal" and "diagonal" approaches. In support of this, one participant proposed "15 by 15": by 2015, 15 per cent of funding in all "vertical" programmes should be earmarked for strengthening "horizontal" health systems activities. In low-income countries, such approaches should also address the endemic non-communicable diseases that affect the so-called "bottom billion" — for example sickle cell anaemia and rheumatic heart disease — as well as palliative care.

22. Speakers referred to the roles that civil society organizations can play in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. There is a significant opportunity to use information and communications technologies to promote health awareness and increase empowerment of individuals and communities to reduce their exposure to risk factors for non-communicable diseases and supporting self care.

23. Many speakers emphasized that access to essential medicines and technologies is critical for the prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases. The cost of the essential medicines is low and should be included in readily available "packages" of essential care; this will require increasing the manufacturing capacity for essential drugs to ensure quick access to high-quality generic pharmaceuticals. The specific need for better access to adequate pain relief, especially morphine, as part of palliative care was raised by several speakers. It was noted that late presentation is all too common in developing countries, partly because of a lack of universal social insurance, but also because of a lack of awareness; both need to be

addressed to avoid unnecessary suffering and premature deaths. Patient and "survivor" groups should be engaged in policy and implementation and can play a significant role in influencing the public, politicians and the media with their stories.

24. Speakers noted that Governments need to set the pace for change and use their power to ensure appropriate regulation to achieve public health goals. This may require regulation at both national and international levels to address significant health threats such as the obesity epidemic — for example to support the effective implementation of standards on marketing of unhealthy foods to children and agreed-upon targets for salt reduction. Children and the public should be protected from commercial marketing that encourages unhealthy actions and exposed to educational messages in schools and in their communities that encourage healthy action. The use of social media to deliver such messages needs to be greatly expanded. The role of physical activity was raised by a number of speakers. The benefits of physical activity are wider than prevention of non-communicable diseases, and national and local policies should create an environment that encourages and supports people to be physically active.

25. Regarding the resources required to prevent and control non-communicable diseases, speakers noted that the majority of funding for health comes from within countries, and States need to mobilize their own resources. Health needs to be a higher priority for Government spending, and non-communicable diseases need to be a higher priority in health spending; that is the only way that funding will be sustainable in the long term. Likewise, current spending on prevention and control of non-communicable diseases needs to be carefully scrutinized to ensure the best possible value for money. The prevention and control of non-communicable diseases should also be considered in decisions about official development assistance for health, in particular through integration with existing health development priorities. In addition, innovative funding mechanisms need to be explored.

26. Many speakers emphasized that one important source of funding for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases is through increasing taxation of tobacco products. Tobacco taxation is also irrefutably one of the most effective ways to decrease tobacco consumption, particularly among young people, and is fundamental to an effective tobacco control programme.

27. Speakers endorsed the need to build capacity and capability to address non-communicable diseases among health professionals. It will require concerted efforts towards revising training curricula, dealing with "brain drain" of trained professionals from low income to higher income countries and greatly strengthening research capacity in developing countries to monitor trends and evaluate interventions.

V. Round table 3: what is needed to enhance global cooperation?

28. The final round table examined ways to increase action at the global level to collectively address the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. The full range of stakeholders, including all those present at the debate, was identified as essential to a more effective response. It is vital to carefully examine previous

international experiences to draw out the key lessons. The value of international instruments such as the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control was emphasized, and it was noted that other such instruments may be needed in the future to support effective international action.

29. Speakers provided specific examples of enabling mechanisms to support global cooperation, including a "clearing house" function to facilitate knowledge sharing, a global forum and bilateral and multilateral partnerships to support technology and knowledge transfer.

30. The need for appropriate monitoring and accountability was reiterated, and it was noted that accountability is a national responsibility that can be supported by appropriate international monitoring.

31. It was acknowledged that the funding environment is currently challenging but there is much that can be done with existing funding. At the national level, there are opportunities to generate or "free up" resources, for example through taxing tobacco, alcohol and foods high in fat or sugar and reprioritizing spending on ineffective and expensive health-care interventions. Reducing donor "silos" will help to ensure that health development occurs in a much more integrated way that will benefit programmes to prevent and control non-communicable diseases as well as other priority areas. There is a need to expand the donor base, and opportunities to do so through linking with related issues such as climate change.

32. International federations of non-governmental organizations and private sector and other organizations have a useful role to play in the promotion of global cooperation. Representatives of the research-based pharmaceutical industry and the food and non-alcoholic beverage industries outlined pledges they have made to contribute to the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. There is potential to expand new partnerships, for example with the sporting goods industries to promote physical activity. The private sector can bring a range of capabilities to support the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, for example its global reach, experience with global brands and global marketing campaigns.

33. With respect to non-governmental organizations, speakers identified the value of greater collaboration, which has been realized over the past two years. Increased collaboration has greatly enhanced their ability to mobilize resources, advocate and generate social and political momentum. Collaboration will need to be further developed to support and monitor the implementation of the outcome document that is to be adopted in September.

VI. Closing session

34. The Director Emeritus of the Pan American Health Organization, George Alleyne, summarized many of the key points canvassed during the day's discussions. He noted a strong degree of coherence in the day's discussions and agreement on the need to act urgently, while acknowledging the different views within and between the different stakeholder groups on some key issues. Emphasizing the need to use proven tools and the value of strong partnerships within the United Nations and across broader society, the Director Emeritus urged all stakeholders to work together for the global public good of reduced suffering and early deaths from non-communicable diseases. He echoed the comments of many

speakers on the need to integrate the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases with action on other key health priorities, notably HIV/AIDS and maternal and child health.

35. In conclusion, the Director Emeritus exhorted participants to increase their efforts to stimulate political action on non-communicable diseases. Civil society had the resources and passion to overcome the apparent inertia and must use its unique ability to "agitate" for change. The wider public needed to be informed of the size of the problem and of the consequences of inaction. He emphasized that the High-level Meeting was an important milestone but that sustained action would be needed beyond September.

36. In closing, the President of the General Assembly emphasized that, as with other key health and development issues, all stakeholders needed to act collectively to address the global challenge of non-communicable diseases. He noted that the global community would act decisively and effectively on important global health issues, and we must learn from these prior experiences. It was in our common interest to act now, he said.

37. Thanking all those who participated in the hearing, the President noted his optimism that the High-level Meeting and the subsequent response would make a real difference to the global challenge of non-communicable diseases. That optimism had been strengthened by the quality of the discussion and the range of ideas canvassed during the hearing and the obvious energy and sense of purpose from all stakeholder groups.

VII. Principal conclusions

38. Key conclusions of the hearing include the following:

(a) Countries should move urgently to prevent and control non-communicable diseases to alleviate the significant social, economic and health impact these diseases are having, which is now compromising development gains. The last decade has seen some progress at the global level in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and it is clear that concerted action and leadership by Governments can result in significant and rapid progress. Efforts need to be greatly increased, however, to avert unsustainable increases in the costs of treating non-communicable diseases, which no country can afford;

(b) There is a strong consensus that non-communicable diseases are a development issue and urgently need to be afforded greater priority in national health and development plans, and a higher priority in Government funding decisions. Non-communicable diseases also need to be incorporated into the global development agenda in ways that complement rather than compete with existing health development priorities, and innovative funding mechanisms need to be rapidly identified and implemented;

(c) The complex drivers of non-communicable diseases require multi-stakeholder action, and countries should put in place a mechanism to engage all the sectors needed for an effective response. Governments should "set the pace" of the response and must show political courage and leadership;

(d) Addressing the key risk factors for non-communicable diseases will require involvement of Governments, communities, civil society, non-governmental organizations, academia and the private sector. It is important that potential conflicts of interest are appropriately managed so that effective action is not compromised;

(e) Non-communicable diseases disproportionately affect the poor at the global and, in many cases, national levels and lead to "catastrophic" expenditures that force people below the poverty line. Universal social insurance schemes are essential to avoid such a scenario and their implementation should be a priority, with attendant benefits for health care that go beyond non-communicable diseases only;

(f) Countries should prioritize the implementation of the most cost-effective population and individual level interventions to prevent non-communicable diseases, some of which are in fact cost saving, to ensure they are getting the best value for money from existing expenditures. These interventions should be the priority for new spending on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

(g) A renewed commitment to full implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control is essential to prevent a huge burden of suffering and many millions of premature deaths among working age people. Countries should honour their commitment not just to full national implementation, but to international cooperation to support low-income countries to implement the Framework Convention;

(h) Countries should continue to strengthen the surveillance and monitoring of non-communicable diseases to inform and guide policy and action at both national and international levels;

(i) The health system response to non-communicable diseases must be fully integrated with programmes that address other key health issues to ensure that services meet the needs of the people who use them. Access to high-quality and affordable essential medicines is an essential component, as is the implementation of programmes to deliver them effectively in low-resource settings;

(j) The outcome document for the High-level Meeting must have clear objectives and measurable indicators, supported by a monitoring and evaluation function, to support national accountability for increasing the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. Civil society organizations should play a role in independently monitoring and reporting on progress;

(k) It is essential that Heads of State and Government attend the High-level Meeting to ensure that there is the high-level political commitment to increase the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

(l) As noted by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/238, countries should consider including civil society representatives in their delegations to the High-level Meeting. Civil society representatives can bring technical expertise and help mobilize political support and will be essential actors in implementing the agreed-upon outcomes of the High-level Meeting;

(m) Health workers are key to an effective national response to non-communicable diseases, but many are not trained to prevent, detect and manage those diseases. Training curricula should be reviewed to ensure that health workers

receive relevant training in both the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

(n) Governments should look to tobacco taxation as a key way to raise revenue to prevent and control non-communicable diseases. In addition, taxation is a highly effective way to reduce smoking rates, particularly among young people.

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 34
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 9 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia (see annex) on the violation of the airspace of Georgia by Russian military helicopters.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 9 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the violation of the airspace of Georgia by Russian military helicopters

On 7 September 2011, at 1.05 p.m., three Russian MI-8 military helicopters breached Georgian airspace over the Tanie gorge near Shatili village in severe violation of the fundamental principles of international law, as well as of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia. The helicopters intruded 3 km deep into Georgian airspace and circled around the Georgian border police checkpoint for approximately 15 minutes. Afterwards the helicopters left the Georgian airspace.

This violation of Georgia's airspace represents a continuation of Russia's policy aimed at infringing on Georgia's statehood and independence. Such a blatant contravention of international law is clearly aimed at provoking an adequate response from the Georgian side and is intended to further escalate the security situation on the ground. Under the aforesaid circumstances, the Georgian side has acted responsibly and with restraint, as further deterioration of the security situation is not in the interests of Georgia nor the wider region.

The continuous breach by Russia of its obligations undertaken under the Six-Point Ceasefire Agreement, its utter disrespect of international law, its reluctance to sign the non-use of force agreement with Georgia, the masterminding of terrorist attacks from the occupied territories, as well as the repeated intrusions into Georgian airspace serve as clear evidence of the aggressive intentions of Russia towards Georgia. Under these circumstances, it becomes obvious that new provocations should be expected from the Russian side.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia will duly inform the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union and other relevant international organizations on the aforementioned incident. Furthermore, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Georgia expects the international community to both provide a proper assessment of the recent violation of Georgian airspace by the Russian armed forces and continue to insist on the full implementation by Russia of the 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement, along with pressuring it to respect fundamental norms and principles of international law.

Tbilisi, 7 September 2011

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Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

Letter dated 9 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions received from the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, I have the honour to draw your attention to ongoing violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia, recorded for the month of August 2011 (see annex). As a result of these violations, during this period a lieutenant of the armed forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan was seriously wounded.

I would also like to refer to the letters dated 4 and 16 August 2011 from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations, circulated as documents A/65/924-S/2011/495 and A/65/932-S/2011/519, respectively. These letters represent yet another futile effort by Armenia to use propaganda to deny its responsibility for the aggression and other most serious international crimes committed against Azerbaijan and its citizens.

It should be noted that the above-mentioned letters and all previous letters of a similar nature and content from the Permanent Mission of Armenia were addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the principal organs of which condemned the use of force to occupy the territory of Azerbaijan and demanded immediate, full and unconditional withdrawal of the Armenian occupying forces from all the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

It is therefore curious that, instead of admitting the self-evident truth and thus ridding themselves of the need to endlessly distort reality, Armenian officials continue to seek justification for their own crimes in attempts to discredit

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Azerbaijan. However, such awkward fabrication easily collapses like a house of cards against the background of facts that testify to a diametrically opposite situation, and it makes no sense at all for Azerbaijan to launch "propagandistic war" against Armenia, as the latter's Permanent Mission groundlessly asserts.

Armenian nationalistic circles have resorted to dangerous provocations, methods of violence and the use of force many times in the past to please the policy of territorial expansionism, thus paving the way for devastating wars and countless human sufferings. By making a series of historical assertions to substantiate this policy, Armenia confirms in reality that its territorial claims towards and military actions against Azerbaijan were aimed from the very beginning at seizing the territories by means of force and changing fundamentally their demographic composition. It is well established that the full-scale war between the two countries was preceded by a number of illegal declarations and decisions taken with a view to securing the unilateral secession of Daghlyq Garabagh (Nagorno Karabakh) from Azerbaijan, by attacks at the end of 1987 and the beginning of 1988 on the Azerbaijanis, both in that territory and in Armenia, resulting in civilian casualties and a flood of Azerbaijani refugees and internally displaced persons and, finally, by incursion of Armenian regular armed forces, mercenary units and terrorist bands into the territory of Azerbaijan.

The documentary evidence proves, and the United Nations and other international organizations confirm, that Armenia unleashed the war to realize its annexationist aspirations; attacked Azerbaijan and occupied its territories, including the Daghlyq Garabagh region and seven adjacent districts; carried out ethnic cleansing on a massive scale; committed other heinous crimes in the course of the war; and established an ethnically constructed subordinate separatist entity on the captured Azerbaijani territory.

We have repeatedly stated, and I would like to point out once again that, as a country suffering from the occupation of its territories and the forcible displacement of hundreds of thousands of its citizens, Azerbaijan is the most interested party in the earliest negotiated settlement of the conflict and the removal of its consequences. On the contrary, taking advantage of the favourable results of military actions, Armenia is trying to consolidate the current status quo of the occupation and impose, finally, a fait accompli situation. In this connection, Armenia considers the conflict settlement process only as a means of achieving the annexation of Azerbaijani territories that it has captured through military force and in which it has carried out ethnic cleansing.

Intensified attacks over the last months on Azerbaijani civilians and civilian objects across the front line, and an unprecedented increase of hostile statements by high-ranking officials in Yerevan, full of historical falsifications and factual distortions as to the root causes of the war and conflict settlement process, confirm the validity of serious concern over the destabilizing effect of Armenia's policy and represent a direct threat to peace, security and stability in the region. The most recent statements by President Serzh Sargsyan of Armenia (see the official website of the President of Armenia, available from www.president.am/events/statements/eng/?id=97; www.president.am/events/statements/eng/?id=93; and www.president.am/events/press/eng/?id=72) are self-explanatory and illustrative as to how the leadership of this country is far from perceiving the generally accepted norms and

principles of civilized behaviour, which are indispensable for the peaceful and prosperous future of our peoples.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 39, 66 and 75, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 9 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Violations of the ceasefire by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia* for the month of August 2011

Date	*Time*	*Fire point area*	*Direction*	*Weapons used*	*Casualties and damage*
1 August	00.35-00.40 05.05-05.15	Occupied areas near unknown heights and Garakhanbeyli, Ashagi Seyidahamdli and Ashagi Abdulrahmanli villages, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	02.30-03.00	Occupied area near Javahirli village, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	20.00-22.00	Occupied area near unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
2 August	00.20-00.30	Occupied area near Meshdili village, Jabrayil district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
3 August	16.00-16.15	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	18.30-18.45	Occupied areas near Javahirli and Garagashli villages, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
6 August	01.10-01.15	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	04.50-05.00	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—

* Settlements of the Republic of Azerbaijan included in this information are under occupation by the Republic of Armenia or situated close to fire point areas.

Date	*Time*	*Fire point area*	*Direction*	*Weapons used*	*Casualties and damage*
9 August	08.00-08.15	Occupied area near Kuropatkino village, Khojavand district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	08.47-08.55	Occupied area near Yusifjanli village, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	13.20-13.40	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
10 August	01.45-01.50 02.05-02.10 05.38-05.45	Occupied areas near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli and Gorgan villages, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	10.00-10.15	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	10.02-10.07	Occupied area near Khojavand district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	13.10-13.35	Occupied area near Dashkasan district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	13.50-14.00 14.05-14.10	Occupied areas near Saridjali and Shurabad villages, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
11 August	03.55-04.05	Occupied areas near Horadiz town and Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	17.55-18.20	Occupied area near Dashkasan district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
12 August	00.10-00.20	Berkaber village, Ijevan district, Armenia	Gizilgadjili village, Gazakh district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
	00.15-00.20	Occupied area, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—

Date	*Time*	*Fire point area*	*Direction*	*Weapons used*	*Casualties and damage*
	18.15-18.40	Unknown heights, Krasnoselsk district, Armenia	Unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
	16.50-17.05	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
13 August	00.00-00.05	Occupied area near Ashagi Seyidahmadli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
14 August	09.20-09.50	Unknown heights, Krasnoselsk district, Armenia	Unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
	13.30-13.40 21.45-22.00	Occupied area near Saridjali village, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	23.50-00.10	Occupied area near Kuropatkino village, Khojavand district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
15 August	12.10-12.50 16.45-17.00	Unknown heights, Krasnoselsk district, Armenia	Unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
16 August	09.00-09.10 16.15-16.25	Unknown heights, Krasnoselsk district, Armenia	Unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
17 August	02.00-02.10	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	18.50-19.00	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
18 August	01.25-01.40	Occupied area near Javahirli village, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	01.40-02.00	Occupied area near Goyarkh village, Tartar district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—

Date	*Time*	*Fire point area*	*Direction*	*Weapons used*	*Casualties and damage*
	04.30-04.35 06.05-06.15	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	16.20-16.35	Occupied area near Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	21.55-22.10 22.50-22.55	Occupied area near Ashagi Veysalli village and unknown heights, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
19 August	00.35-00.41 01.50-01.58	Occupied area near Ashagi Veysalli village and unknown heights, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	09.55-10.00 22.50-23.10	Occupied areas near Shurabad and Garagashli villages, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
21 August	10.30-10.45	Unknown heights, Krasnoselsk district, Armenia	Unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
	20.00-20.15 23.45-00.00	Occupied area, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area, unknown heights	Firearm and machine gun	A lieutenant of the armed forces of Azerbaijan, Akif Abdiyev, was seriously wounded
	20.10-20.20 23.45-00.00	Occupied areas near Garagashli and Yusifjanli villages, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
22 August	10.30-10.50 22.45-23.05	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	22.10-22.20 23.30-23.35	Occupied areas near Kengerli and Shurabad villages, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
23 August	19.55-20.00 20.30-20.37	Occupied area near Gorgan village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—

Date	*Time*	*Fire point area*	*Direction*	*Weapons used*	*Casualties and damage*
	23.00-23.40	Occupied area near Goyarkh village, Tartar district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
24 August	05.00-05.20	Occupied area near Gorgan village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	11.15-11.20	Berkaber village, Ijevan district, Armenia	Gizilgadjili village, Gazakh district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
	12.20-12.35	Occupied area near Tapgaragoyunlu village, Goranboy district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	21.40-21.45	Unknown heights near the Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	23.55-00.15	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
25 August	01.30-01.40	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
26 August	05.25-05.30	Occupied area near Ashagi Abdulrahmanli village, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	13.00-13.25 19.50-20.05	Occupied area, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
27 August	01.30-01.35	Occupied area, Fizuli district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area, unknown heights	Firearm and machine gun	—
31 August	11.30-11.50	Unknown heights, Krasnoselsk district, Armenia	Unknown heights, Gadabay district, Azerbaijan	Firearm and machine gun	—
	19.45-19.50	Occupied area near Giziloba village, Tartar district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—
	22.50-23.20	Occupied area near Saridjali village, Agdam district, Azerbaijan	Adjacent area	Firearm and machine gun	—

United Nations

A/65/943–S/2011/571

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Security Council

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Agenda item 117
Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Note verbale dated 12 September 2011 from the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and has the honour to enclose herewith the Special Statement of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America-People's Trade Agreement on the situation in Libya and Syria (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations formally requests the Secretary-General to circulate the present note verbale and its annex as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

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Annex

[Original: Spanish]

Special Declaration of the Minsters for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America-People's Trade Agreement (ALBA-TCP) on the situation in Libya and Syria

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America-People's Trade Agreement (ALBA-TCP), gathered in Caracas, Venezuela, on 9 September 2011, recalling the Special Communiqué of the Political Council of 4 March 2011 and the Special Communiqué of the Social Ministerial Council of 19 March 2011, condemn the intervention of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Libya, and the illegal military aggression carried out under a United Nations Security Council resolution, which opportunistically exploits the internal political conflict in the country.

They denounce the NATO military operation for regime change in Libya, conducted under the doctrine of preventive war, and the manipulation of the United Nations to suit its geopolitical and economic interests in violation of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011).

They demand the immediate and unconditional cessation of NATO bombings and military intervention in Libyan territory.

They deplore the fact that NATO has disregarded the persistent efforts of the African Union to seek a peaceful solution to the internal conflict in Libya based on dialogue.

They further deplore the complicity of various major international media outlets, which have sided with those interested in aggression and have consciously distorted information on what is happening in Libya.

They sound an extremely urgent warning about the danger that similar action will be taken against Syria, exploiting the political difficulties that Arab nation is undergoing.

They reiterate their firmest commitment to the right of self-determination of the peoples of Libya and Syria.

They reject in the strongest terms any attempt to turn Libya into a NATO or Security Council protectorate.

Desiring to help support efforts to achieve the peace demanded by the majority of the world's peoples, the Ministers agree to undertake the following actions:

- Encourage discussion in the General Assembly on the dangerous precedents that have been set with regard to Libya, and on protection of the sovereign rights of that Arab nation in Africa with a view to guaranteeing that Libya will not become a NATO or Security Council protectorate;
- Promote the establishment of a Working Group of the General Assembly to investigate and monitor the use of Libya's frozen financial reserves and report to the Assembly on its findings and conclusions;

- Call on the international community to promote an initiative to investigate crimes perpetrated by NATO in Libya which have caused harm to the Libyan people, including loss of life and the destruction of the country's infrastructure. Compile a list of instances of media manipulation and lies promoted by the imperialists to justify their attack on the Libyan people;

- Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to be fully transparent with and strictly accountable to Member States concerning his actions with respect to Libya and Syria, stress that his actions must be taken under the mandates agreed to by the General Assembly before further interventions in Libya are conducted, and request the Secretary-General to hold a meeting with the ALBA-TCP countries to discuss the situation in Libya;

- Endorse a central role for the African Union in efforts to bring peace to Libya;

- Express its opposition to Libya's seat in the United Nations being occupied by an illegitimate transitional faction or authority imposed by foreign interventionism and thus promote an in-depth debate in the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations in order to prevent Libya's seat from being filled until such time as it has a Government that has been legally constituted, without foreign intervention, and is a free and sovereign expression of the will of the Libyan people;

- Propose to the Syrian Government that an ALBA-TCP mission composed of high-level representatives or Ministers for Foreign Affairs be sent to Damascus and if that proposal is accepted, report on this initiative to Latin American and Caribbean countries through the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the unified forum of the Latin American and Caribbean Summit (CALC) and the Rio Group, and invite those who wish to join this initiative to participate;

- Promote a debate in the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on the dangers looming over Syria;

- Support, together with the Non-Aligned Countries that are members of the Security Council, the draft resolution on Syria put forward by the Russian Federation and China;

- Transmit this Declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and request that it be circulated among States Members of the United Nations as an official document of the General Assembly.

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Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Summary of the informal thematic debate on international migration and development

Note by the President of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/225, the President of the General Assembly convened an informal thematic debate on international migration and development in New York on 19 May 2011. The purpose of the debate was to take stock of and contribute to the ongoing dialogue on international migration and development, including the process leading to the General Assembly's second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, in 2013.

II. Opening session

2. Since 2006, when the General Assembly held its first High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, the international community has made considerable progress in strengthening international cooperation to leverage the contributions of migrants and migration to individual and societal development and to address the negative consequences of migration, as noted by several speakers at the opening session. Many countries have developed innovative policies and programmes to engage their expatriate communities in the development process, to enhance regional collaboration and consultation and to reduce the transfer costs of remittances. In addition, the number of multilateral projects seeking to realize the benefits of international migration for development has increased markedly. Yet many challenges remain. Despite the overwhelming evidence of the positive contributions of migration to development, the economic and financial crises, coupled with rising levels of unemployment, have led to increasing anti-immigrant sentiments in many societies. Recent developments in the Middle East and North Africa have highlighted the vulnerability of international migrants and the need for greater cooperation and coordination at all levels.

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III. Panel 1: The contribution of migrants to development

3. The debate recognized that international migration has many positive consequences for migrants, their families and both countries of destination and countries of origin. Remittances improve the standard of living of families remaining in the country of origin, including by expanding their access to health and education services. While the developmental impact of remittances could be improved, it was acknowledged that remittances were private income and could not be a substitute for foreign direct investment or official development assistance. Several participants drew the Assembly's attention to the "five by five" initiative, endorsed by the Group of Eight in 2009, which sought to reduce average remittance transfer costs by five percentage points over five years and to make financial services more accessible to migrants and their families.

4. The debate highlighted a number of new policies directed at leveraging the contribution of migrant communities to the development of countries of origin. Expatriate communities are playing an increasingly active role in mobilizing human, social and financial resources to foster development in their home countries. Countries of origin have been strengthening ties with their nationals abroad, including by promoting their political participation, encouraging their involvement in trade and investment and providing legal assistance and training. Bilateral donors are providing funding and technical support for co-development projects involving migrant communities. Innovative strategies to harness migrant entrepreneurship are being initiated, while awareness about the obstacles that migrant entrepreneurs face upon return has been increasing. Such obstacles include the lack of access to affordable capital because of the non-portability of both pensions and credit histories, a poorly developed business environment and the lack of recognition of credentials.

5. Policies to promote circular migration and voluntary return were also showcased. Allowing migrants to maintain the right to residence at destination while they return temporarily to their countries of origin is considered critical for the success of circular migration programmes. Some countries of destination offer returning migrants access to special loans and tax breaks as part of programmes to support voluntary return, while some countries of origin have adjusted their tax laws to create a more favourable investment climate for their nationals abroad, which is often the first step towards successful return and productive employment, as well as job creation back home.

6. Participants expressed concern about the international recruitment of skilled professionals, such as doctors, nurses and teachers, from developing countries facing serious shortages of those skills. The adoption of the Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, by the sixty-third World Health Assembly in 2010, was welcomed.

7. The debate underscored that the demand for skilled workers is likely to increase in the future owing to global market forces. To address the growing demand for skilled workers, countries of destination are encouraged to adopt ethical recruitment practices, while countries of origin, with the support of donor countries, are encouraged to improve their training standards and to enlarge the pool of those being trained. The policies of countries that have been attracting back skilled nationals were highlighted and the need to monitor and evaluate the outcomes of those policies was underscored.

8. Despite a widespread recognition of the positive contributions of international migration to development, several participants cautioned that international migration should not be considered an alternative to development. While migrants can be encouraged to contribute to development efforts, Governments remained responsible for achieving sustainable development and improving human well-being, including by reducing poverty.

9. Several participants called for redoubling efforts to ensure respect for the fundamental rights and freedoms of international migrants. Racist and xenophobic undertones are increasingly taking hold of the political discourse in major receiving countries, underscoring the need to redouble efforts to protect the rights of all international migrants. Migrant workers are often subject to discrimination and even exploitation. Given their secluded working environment, domestic workers, most of whom are women, are particularly vulnerable to abuse. Participants stressed that migrants were first and foremost human beings with inalienable rights that transcend their immigration status. Member States were urged to ratify and implement all the international instruments relevant to international migration, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

10. Participants provided several examples of the adverse effects that international migration could have on families, especially on children who stayed behind in the countries of origin while one or both of their parents went abroad. Allowing family reunification is beneficial in reducing the negative social effect of international migration on families. When children remain behind, it is important to provide the services that can assist in addressing the psychological and social impacts of family separation.

IV. Panel 2: Improving international cooperation on international migration and development

11. Strengthening cooperation at the global, regional and bilateral levels is an essential component of any strategy seeking to enhance the contribution of international migration and migrants to development. With skill shortages affecting every region of the world, international labour mobility has become a standard feature of a globalized world. Participants recognized the important role of regional consultative processes on migration in promoting dialogue and cooperation among countries. They also acknowledged the importance of international cooperation in facilitating a more effective management of the recruitment and admission of migrant workers, fostering improvements in their working conditions and ensuring that the recruitment industry followed existing regulations. Bilateral initiatives to recognize qualifications, facilitate the mobility of different categories of skilled migrants, support the voluntary return of migrants and ensure the portability of pensions and other social benefits have borne fruit. Nevertheless, some bilateral agreements do not take full account of the interests of countries of origin and the mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of such agreements were sometimes deficient.

12. Development cooperation was a central focus of the debate. Since 2006, donor countries have allocated nearly a quarter of a billion dollars to multilateral activities on international migration and development. Furthermore, with the support of the

international community, an increasing number of countries have incorporated international migration into their national development plans. Greater international cooperation is required to address the root causes of international migration, including poverty, the lack of employment opportunities, conflict, poor governance and environmental degradation. Still too often, people migrate out of necessity rather than choice.

13. Several participants underscored the limitations of a unilateral approach to managing international migration, noting that migrants often pay the ultimate price for the lack of collaboration between countries. Transnational organized crime, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling, offered striking examples of policy concerns that could be addressed effectively only through collaboration at the bilateral or multilateral levels. States have a shared responsibility in promoting safe and legal international migration, combating irregular migration and human trafficking, enhancing migrant integration, safeguarding the rights of migrants and protecting the most vulnerable, including certain migrant women and children.

14. The debate acknowledged the success of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in fostering cooperation, sharing good practices and promoting a constructive dialogue among Member States and relevant international agencies, as well as with civil society. Noting that informal processes have their limitations, some Member States called for the establishment of more formal mechanisms to advance the debate on international migration and development. They identified the United Nations — and in particular the General Assembly — as the most suitable venue for the development of such mechanisms. Other Member States viewed the Global Forum and the debate in the General Assembly as complementary and mutually reinforcing processes. The assessment of the Global Forum, being undertaken under the auspices of the Forum's Chair-in-Office (Ambassador Eduard Gnesa of Switzerland), is expected to serve as an important input for the High-level Dialogue in 2013. However, particularly in the light of the financial crisis, the lack of stable funding and difficulties in identifying countries willing to host future meetings of the Global Forum were obstacles to the continuation of this process.

15. Participants expressed appreciation for the increased collaboration among international organizations in addressing international migration issues. Since its establishment in 2006, the Global Migration Group — an inter-agency group that includes 15 organizations of the United Nations system plus the International Organization for Migration — has made major strides in supporting Member States in a collaborative and coordinated manner, especially by assisting in the implementation of the suggestions emanating from the Global Forum. The recent crisis in northern Africa has highlighted the importance of collaboration and coordination among relevant members of the Global Migration Group.

16. Participants recognized the contributions made by the Global Migration Group to the improvement of the evidence on the nexus between international migration and development. Informing the public about the contributions of international migrants was considered essential to counter discrimination, racism and the social exclusion of migrants.

V. Closing session and conclusions

17. As the debate's rich discussion indicated, international migration deserves continued attention from the international community, both because international cooperation is necessary to take advantage of the opportunities that international migration generates and because its impact is likely to increase in the future. As a global phenomenon, international migration requires a global approach. Partnerships at all levels are necessary to address effectively the complex relationship between international migration and development.

18. By showcasing good practices and sharing innovative policies, programmes and projects, the debate set a useful basis for the in-depth consideration of those issues in 2013. In the meantime, every effort should be made to continue the dialogue, strengthen partnerships, support capacity-development and safeguard the rights of migrants. No opportunity should be missed to facilitate the contribution of international migration to improve human well-being and, in particular, to reduce poverty and contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.